

Administrative Notice DMMA-04-2007

TO: All DMMA Staff

DATE: April 10, 2007

SUBJECT: Savings Bonds

BACKGROUND

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a memorandum to Region I, dated February 2, 2004, which gave guidance as to when savings bonds are considered an available resource.

DISCUSSION

Previous language suggested that savings bonds would not be an available resource until the bonds were submitted to the Office of Public Debt and a check issued. CMS suggests that, because the bonds can be redeemed due to hardship, they are immediately available. The guidance from CMS approved valuation of United States savings bonds as a resource beginning on the date of the purchase unless individuals have requested and been denied a hardship waiver from the United States Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Public Debt.

ACTION REQUIRED

- Obtain copies of the Savings Bonds
- Determine ownership of the bonds
- Consult the Table of Redemption Values to determine the bonds value
- If the value causes the individual to be ineligible for Long Term Care Medicaid, instruct the bondholder to send the bonds along with a letter to:

Office of Public Debt
Federal Reserve Bank
Pittsburgh Branch
717 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

The letter should explain a hardship condition exists and it requires the need for a waiver from the retention period.

- Count the value of the bonds as a resource during this request period
- If the hardship waiver is denied the bonds will be excluded until the mandatory retention period ends
- Review 20330.7 DSSM

DIRECT INQUIRIES TO

Barbara L Lewis
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Signed - April 11, 2007

HARRY B. HILL, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF MEDICAID & MEDICAL ASSISTANCE